

## La Porte police arrest massage parlor owner in prostitution sting

By: Dana Guthrie 04.13.12

La Porte police made fast work of a prostitution sting at a massage parlor on Friday, thanks to the alleged proprietor's quickness to reveal her motives to investigators.

"On just their second entry into the business within a two-day period, the unit was able to expose the true nature of the business, as employees at the spa did not solicit services, nor were offers or requests made by undercover officers, but rather the owner, while in the presence of two additional (employees), simply attempted to begin a sexual act with police," LPPD spokesman Sgt. John Krueger said in a report.

The sting was conducted at about 3 p.m. at the JJ Relax Spa in the 1300 block of W. Fairmont Parkway, in La Porte. Once monetary amounts began to be discussed, an undercover detective signaled nearby investigators to arrest the business owner, Xiaowen Liu, 38, who is charged with prostitution, Krueger said.

The investigation began after a combination of allegations and anonymous tips led police to believe the massage parlor was a front for a sexually-oriented business, he said.

The suspect was taken to the La Porte jail.

"While investigators continue to review the details of the case, La Porte Police believes this is an isolated operation in their community," Krueger said.

However the agency advises that they have "additional arrangements to identify and root out any similar activities in the community."